Concessions for Foreign Investment in Road and Port Sector

†193. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently announced further concessions for the investment of foreign capital for construction of roads and ports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that construction work is being undertaken in the country for various roads and ports construction projects; and

(d) if so, the details of the projects under private sector, public sector and joint sector and the target date of the completion of construction work for each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Automatic approval of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been increased from 74% to 100% for the road sector and port sector projects upto Rs. 1500 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A list of projects so far awarded to private sector on BOT basis for the Road Sector and Port Sector are at Annexure *(See* Appendix 188—Annexure No. 5).

Road Accidents

194. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of road accidents has continuously been increasing since last few years;

(b) if so, the number of total road accidents registered in the country during the years of 1996, 1997 and 1998;

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.